

Sylvia Raye was present from Emerald Data Solutions. She reviewed the basics of BoardDocs. Council members in attendance for training on the paperless agenda were Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee, Aldermen: Barry Cox, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Chris Schuchard, Lou Sotelo, and John Stauter. City staff present were City Manager Scott Shumard, City Management Intern Kevin Smith, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, December 1, 2014. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Barry Cox, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Chris Schuchard, Lou Sotelo, and John Stauter. Absent: None.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, City Management Intern Kevin Smith, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Larry Woolsey commented on the City's proposed Rental Inspection Program. He believes the City has enough "teeth" because fines can be imposed for violations that have not been corrected. Why is that not sufficient? If houses are graded, landlords will fix the house and raise the rent, thereby hurting the people you are trying to help. If the number of occupants is limited, it will again hurt these people that cannot afford their own places. If you believe 5% of the landlords are bad, do something about that 5% and out-of-town landlords. We need less government and more free enterprise. We need more jobs. Tenants don't have a chance. The 2012 Property Maintenance Code makes it impossible for older housing units to be in compliance. The program won't pay for itself so fees will increase. Woolsey believes we do not need this Rental Inspection Program.

Rod Kleckler stated that if residential rental properties are a business why are other businesses not required to register annually and be inspected.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A) City Council Minutes of November 17, 2014
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$1,008,648.90
- C) Approval of Plan Commission minutes for the following months:
 - 1) August 21, 2014
 - 2) September 18, 2014
 - 3) October 16, 2014

- D) Petition to allow the Sterling Fire Department to solicit funds for the Salvation Army at Second Street/Second Avenue and Locust/Fifth Street from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturday, December 6, 2014
- E) Award bid for Diesel Skid Steer Loader from Logan Contractor Supply of Bettendorf, Iowa in the amount of \$40,545.00
- F) Award Bid for Demolition of 1111 Avenue L to Jennings Excavating in the amount of \$1399.00
- G) Award Bid for Demolition of 906 Dillon Avenue to Burke Excavating in the amount of \$4545.00

The motion was seconded by Alderman Schuchard. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the proclamation recognizing Tuesday, December 2, 2014 as ILGIVESBIG Day for the Home of Hope Cancer Wellness Center; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Proclamation designating December as Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month in Sterling, Illinois; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record.

Manager Shumard announced that Friday will be the last day for yard waste pick-up. Sterling Main Street will hold activities throughout the day of December 6 for Seasonal Sights and Sounds with the tree lighting at the Grandon Civic Center at 4:30 pm. Tomorrow will be a pre-bid meeting for the IGIG grant to restore the riverfront site.

Alderman Cox thanked the Fire Department for the ride through the Hometown Holiday Parade on Saturday.

Alderman Stauter reminded everyone to support Home of Hope on Tuesday for the Day of Giving, as well as other charities. Salvation Army is looking for bell ringers.

Mayor Lee stated the Girl Scouts will be selling cookies from January 9 through 30.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm.